

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR ZEV YAROSLAVSKY

April 22, 2014

Born in Vienna in 1924 and a naturalized American citizen since 1961, Theodore Bikel is a multi-talented performer of uncommon distinction, a formally trained graduate of London's Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts, an accomplished singer, engaging author, committed union leader for working stage actors, and passionate champion of civil and human rights.

He has recorded nearly two dozen albums of Jewish folk music, appeared in nearly three dozen films including "The African Queen," "Moulin Rouge," and "The Defiant Ones," many dozens of television programs beginning in TV's "Golden Age" of live drama, hundreds of concerts and thousands of stage productions around the world.

In addition to performing himself, he has played a leading role in creating opportunities for others to perform, opening The Unicorn, a seminal folk club and coffee house in Los Angeles, and co-founding the legendary Newport Folk Festival that showcased so many celebrated international folk artists over the years.

His cultural leadership and standing in the performing community has earned him election as vice president and president of Actors' Equity Association, vice president of the International Federation of Actors, president of the Associated Actors and Artistes of America, membership on the Board of Americans for the Arts, and a

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presidential appointment for a five year-year term on the National Council for the Arts, as well as academic recognition with honorary degrees from the Universities of Hartford, Seton Hall and Hebrew Union College.

After an incredible lifetime of artistic accomplishment, Theo, as he is known to his friends, now prepares to celebrate a very special birthday. It is only fitting that we here in the entertainment capital of the world take appropriate note of this occasion.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors hereby proclaims Friday, May 2, 2014 as "Theodore Bikel Day" in the County of Los Angeles, in proud recognition of this extraordinary performer's contributions to the civic and cultural vitality of our local, regional, and global community.

JB S:\ Theodore Bikel Day